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FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 2668
INFO RUEHZA/WHA CENTRAL AMERICAN COLLECTIVE
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC
RUCPDO/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHINGTON DC
RUEHRC/DEPT OF AGRICULTURE WASHINGTON DC
RUEHLMC/MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORP WASHDC

UNCLAS MANAGUA 000680

SIPDIS
SENSITIVE

STATE PASS USTR AND USAID
STATE FOR EEB/TPP

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [ECON](#) [EAGR](#) [ETRD](#) [TBIO](#) [PGOV](#) [NU](#)
SUBJECT: NICARAGUA: REACTION TO PRESIDENT'S FOOD SECURITY
INITIATIVE

REFS: A) MANAGUA 664, B) STATE 52628, C) STATE 39410

11. Post delivered Ref B demarche on the President's food security initiatives to senior and working level GON officials. On May 22, Ambassador Trivelli briefed Foreign Minister Samuel Santos on the President's \$770 million response to the food crisis, and explained our goals in the Doha Development Round. The Ambassador also expressed our interest in seeing Nicaragua continue to avoid implementing export restrictions and embrace biotechnology. Minister Santos expressed general agreement with our points, but did not elaborate.

12. On May 22, Emboffs briefed Ministry of Trade, Development, and Industry Director General for International Trade Sonia Somarriba and Acting President of the National Commission for GMO Risk Analysis Javier Slaquit on Ref B points and have requested meetings with Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock officials. USAID and USDA, through the Special Donors Group on Food Security, are also working with the GON to coordinate food security assistance. Post will continue to seek opportunities to deliver Ref A points during the next several weeks and will report any substantive responses.

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